## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 SY-05 MCT-01 AID-05 CCO-00 FBOE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSC-05 SP-02 OC-06 OPR-02 PA-02 USSS-00 CA-01 A-01 SCS-06 OMB-01 SS-15 /092 W

-----075384 282215Z /64

P 281925Z JUN 78 FM AMCONSUL MATAMOROS TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 438 INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO PRIORITY

UNCLAS MATAMOROS 0058

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC, CASC, PINS

SUBJECT: STUDENT VIOLANCE IN MATAMOROS

RF: MATAMOROS 0057

- 1. ONCE AGAIN THE STUDENTS WERE OUT IN THE STREET YESTERDAY EVENING DESTROYING SEVERAL AUTOMOBILES, THEY SET FIRE TO A NIGHT CLUB IN THE RED LIGHT DISTRICT AND CAUSED OTHER DAMAGE TO PROPERTY. HOWEVER, THIS WAS NOT A MASS DEMONSTRATION AS THE DAY BEFORE BUT WERE ROVING BANDS FORMED BY 20 OR 30 YOUTHS WHICH WOULD QUICKLY DISPERSE WHEN THE ARMY OR POLICE ARRIVED.
- 2. GOVENOR ENRIQUE CARDENAS CAME TO MATAMOROS ON JUNE 27 ACCOMPANIED BY THE STATE CHIEF OF POLICE WHO WAS PLACED IN CHARGE OF THE CITY POLICE AFTER THE FIRING (OR THE SUSPENSION IT IS NOT CLEAR WHICH) OF THE LOCAL POLICE CHIEF, EMILIANO DEL TORO. MAYOR ANTONIO CAVAZOS TOLD THE PRESS THAT HE IS WILLING TO TALK TO THE STUDENTS AND THAT THEIR DEMANDS WILL BE SOLVED. HE ALSO SAID THAT TWO POLICEMEN RESPOSIBLE FOR THE DEATH OF THE 15 YEAR-OLD STUDENT WILL BE BROUGHT TO TRIAL.

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- 3. THE AUTHORITIES HAVE NOT REVEALED THE NUMBER OF CASUALTIES AS A RESULT OF THE RIOTS, NOR THE NUMBER OF PERSONS THAT WERE ARRESTED. IT APPEARS CERTAIN THAT 3 PERSONS WERE KILLED. THE PRESS REPORTED THAT MORE THAN 50 PERSONS WERE TREATED IN THE HOSPITALS MOSTLY FOR MINOR INJURES.
- 4. THERE WERE REPORTS THAT AT LEAST 3 BUS LOADS OF STUDENTS

ARRIVED FROM MONTERREY ON JUNE 27. IT HAD BEEN ANNOUNCED EARLIER IN THE DAY THAT ANOTHER DEMONSTRATION WOULD TAKE PLACE IN THE EVENING WHICH DID NOT OCCUR

COMMENT: SINCE THE STUDENTS' DEMANDS FOR THE FIRING OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE AND FOR THE ARREST OF THE COPS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DEATH OF THE STUDENT HAVE BEEN MET, THE CALM SHOULD RETURN TO THIS BATTERED CITY THE MILITARY ARE STILL VERY MUCH IN EVIDENCE IN THE STREETS AND THE WORK FORCE WHICH STAYED HOME YESTERDAY IS BACK ON THE JOB TODAY. WE ARE NOT ADVISING AMERICAN TOURISTS TO STAY AWAY FROM MATAMOROS BUT RATHER TO AVOID THE DOWNTOWN AREA DURING THE EVENING UNTIL THINGS RETURN TO NORMAL.

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS, CIVIL DISORDERS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 28 jun 1978 Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: n/a

Disposition Approved on Date: Disposition Case Number: n/a Disposition Comment: Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978MATAMO00058
Document Source: CORE

**Document Unique ID: 00** Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

**Expiration:** Film Number: D780268-0274 Format: TEL

From: MATAMOROS Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780612/aaaaakdz.tel

Line Count: 76 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 073d4f7e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION ARA

Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: n/a Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 27 apr 2005 **Review Event:** Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a

Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 2180765 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: STUDENT VIOLANCE IN MATAMOROS RF: MATAMOROS 0057

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To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/073d4f7e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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